

## CONTEXT

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- The compounded effects of climatic shocks, conflict, and related displacement continue to generate high levels of humanitarian need across Ethiopia, with more than 20 million people requiring aid, according to the UN. The country is experiencing elevated needs due to a historic drought and the conflict in northern Ethiopia, in addition to other challenges, including disease outbreaks, high food prices, intercommunal conflict, and seasonal flooding.
- The drought in the Horn of Africa has affected 24.1 million people in Ethiopia, displacing approximately 345,000 people and leaving 8.3 million people facing daily household water insecurity. Further, the UN estimates that 9.9 million people require emergency food assistance, while more than 2.2 million children are experiencing wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—as a result of the drought, according to the UN. The drought has also resulted in approximately 3.5 million livestock deaths, decimating livelihoods for pastoralists and reducing access to milk, a critical source of nutrition for pastoral households. With a fifth consecutive below-average rainy season forecast to occur between October and December threatening unprecedented drought conditions, relief actors anticipate critically high levels of humanitarian need in Ethiopia through at least early 2023, the UN reports.
- Renewed conflict in northern Ethiopia in late August following a five-month halt in hostilities—during which humanitarian actors transported urgently needed relief commodities to Tigray Region—has contributed to sustained needs across Afar, Amhara, and Tigray regions while hindering relief efforts, according to the UN. The resumed hostilities have disrupted humanitarian response activities amid elevated food and nutrition insecurity across the three regions as a result of the conflict. Moreover, drought has compounded the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected households, particularly in Afar, where communities that had supported displaced populations have largely exhausted resources.
- Armed group activity and intercommunal conflict in areas of eastern, southern, and western Ethiopia continue to intensify humanitarian needs and limit access to populations in need. In conflict-affected Benishangul Gumuz Region, humanitarian access remains tenuous and needs remain high amid intermittent insecurity and widespread displacement. Meanwhile, insecurity in some drought-affected areas of Oromia and Somali regions is impeding drought response efforts and limiting access to assistance and livelihood opportunities.



## ASSISTANCE

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- USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) supports partners to address critical humanitarian needs of conflict- and drought-affected populations across Ethiopia, providing nearly \$2.5 billion in Fiscal Years (FYs) 2021 and 2022 for emergency and early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) interventions. This

total includes approximately \$1.1 billion in funding for the northern Ethiopia complex emergency response in FYs 2021 and 2022. USAID/BHA funding supports agriculture, food, health, livelihood, multipurpose cash, nutrition, protection, shelter and settlements, and water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance across the country.

- USAID/BHA supports the provision of emergency food assistance to reach vulnerable populations—including internally displaced persons, refugees, and host community members—in food-insecure areas across Ethiopia. With USAID/BHA support, the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided food and cash-based assistance to an estimated 2.4 million people in Somali between January 2022 and March 2022. Additionally, WFP reached more than 727,000 refugees countrywide with a combination of cash-based assistance and food rations during the same period. The UN agency also provides targeted nutrition interventions for children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) across seven regions of Ethiopia, reaching more than 154,000 children and nearly 36,000 PLW during the same period. In addition to its support for WFP, USAID/BHA supports the Joint Emergency Operation (JEOP), a consortium of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) led by Catholic Relief Services, which coordinates closely with the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) Disaster Risk Management Commission to respond to emergency food assistance needs in conflict- and drought-affected areas. The JEOP provided food assistance to 4.3 million people across five regions and one city administration of Ethiopia during the first half of 2022 alone.
- USAID/BHA also funds ER4 Resilience Food Security Activities that work in tandem with the GoE’s Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP)—an initiative launched in 2005 that seeks to address the basic food needs of approximately 9 million people experiencing food insecurity annually—to build long-term resilience among vulnerable communities. With more than \$101 million in FY 2022 ER4 funding, USAID/BHA supports programs that improve food security, nutrition practices, livelihood skills, and access to income-generating activities for vulnerable households enrolled in the PSNP.
- USAID/BHA partners also provide essential logistics support for the humanitarian response in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray, enabling critical coordination and logistics services—including the transportation and storage of life-saving commodities—for the humanitarian community through the Logistics Cluster, the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. Amid persistent access constraints, the Logistics Cluster transported nearly 285,000 MT of humanitarian cargo across conflict lines to Tigray on overland convoys during 2022. The cluster also coordinates overland convoys that transport relief items from humanitarian warehouses to communities in need in Afar and Amhara.

USAID/BHA Funding in Ethiopia <sup>1</sup>			
	Emergency <sup>2</sup>	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2021	\$840,086,722	\$113,432,461	\$953,519,184
FY 2022	\$1,411,625,873	\$101,220,773	\$1,512,846,646

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2022. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>2</sup> Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.